

A. Themes and Draft Goals

Citizen Topic Group: Education

As part of Imagine Columbia's Future, Citizen Topic Groups reviewed the ideas for the future generated by the public, identified subtopics for organizing these ideas, formed subtopic groups, identified themes emerging from the ideas, and generated draft subtopic goals that reflect that aspirations of the community. These draft goals will be presented to the public at the April 4th Exploring the Vision Workshop for feedback.

This document includes all of the output that has been received from your Citizen Topic Group (CTG) to this point. The first one to two pages list your agreed-upon subtopics, draft goals for each subtopic, and notes from the consultant that offer an overall assessment of the work of your CTG. The following pages provide a record of the work of each subtopic group, including identified themes, draft goal statements, and any preliminary strategies or notes that the subtopic group has submitted. (Minutes have not been included.) Any gaps in this information indicate that the consultant has not received all of your group's output.

The draft goals have been revised by ACP-Visioning and Planning, Ltd. for clarity and consistency, as necessary. The original goal and ACP's suggested revisions are clearly designated in the material provided for each subtopic. In cases where no draft goals were submitted, ACP prepared draft goals using the themes provided by the subtopic group as a guide. At the third CTG meeting, subtopic groups will review these draft goals, and will have the opportunity to accept, revise, or rewrite them.

Agreed Upon Subtopics

1. Curriculum and Programs
2. Facilities
3. Resource Allocation
4. Quality Education

Draft Goals by Subtopic

The following draft goals were developed by the group and have been edited by the consultant for consistency and clarity, when necessary.

Curriculum and Programs

Our citizens of all ages will have access to educational opportunities designed to meet their individual needs and learning styles that will ultimately improve their quality of life.

Facilities

In the future, educational facilities in Columbia will be of the highest quality construction, include the latest technology, and be of such size and number to provide for comfortable learning for people of all ages, provide for all educational programs in the community, be effectively utilized through shared community activities, and completely meet the needs of the community.

Resource Allocation

In a collaborative effort between the community and its educational entities, resources will be allocated to ensure that teachers are well tracked and well compensated, that administration is effective and efficient, that students have equal access to resources, that there are increased opportunities for early childhood programs, as well as ELL students with low SES, and that there is increased awareness of and utilization of adult education, higher education programs, and scholarship opportunities.

Quality Education

Columbia will provide a continuum of high quality educational opportunities (validated by meaningful measures of outcomes) that enables students of all ages and abilities to achieve learning and training goals.

Notes/Assessment by ACP – Visioning and Planning, Ltd.

- All subtopics are doing very well and have their themes and summary statements.
- The Resource Allocation subtopic group should put their goal statement into one sentence form. A sample is provided.
- All acronyms should be defined. (See Resource Allocation.)

Themes and Draft Goals

Sub-Topic: Curriculum and Programs

Original List of Themes from Kick-off

1. After school
2. Adult education / community education
3. Teen transition
4. Home / school communication
5. ESL
6. Alternative Education:
 - a. Environmental Education
 - b. Driver's education
 - c. Swimming
 - d. Non-Traditional Education

Revised List of Themes from Citizen Topic Group Meeting #2

1. After school
2. Adult education / community education
3. Teen transition
4. Home / school communication
5. ESL
6. Alternative Education:
 - e. Outdoor / Environmental Education
 - f. Driver's education
 - g. Swimming
 - h. Non-Traditional Education
7. Portfolios
8. Spirituality
9. Lifelong learning
10. Service learning – esp. Middle School and Jr. High
11. Home economics
12. Feedback loop
13. Application learning to individuals ??? would envision

Draft Goal Statement

We want our citizens of all ages to have educational opportunities designed to meet their individual needs and learning styles and to ultimately improve their quality of life.

Suggested Revision from ACP – Visioning and Planning, Ltd.

Our citizens of all ages will have access to educational opportunities designed to meet their individual needs and learning styles that will ultimately improve their quality of life.

Themes and Draft Goals

Sub-Topic: Facilities

Original List of Themes from Kick-off

1. More high schools
2. More smaller schools
3. Upgrade (AC) existing schools
4. Utilize latest environmentally friendly technology
5. Working with private schools
6. Eliminate trailers
7. Career center for transition from school to work
8. Multiple use of facilities / public use

Revised List of Themes from Citizen Topic Group Meeting #2

1. More high schools
2. More smaller schools
3. Upgrade (AC) existing schools
4. Utilize latest environmentally friendly technology
5. Working with private schools
6. Eliminate trailers
7. Career center for transition from school to work
8. Multiple use of facilities / public use
9. House programs in buildings owned by the district
10. Meet space needs of all programs (special, gifted, etc.)

Draft Goal Statement

In the future, the educational facilities in Columbia will be such that they completely meet the needs of this community through upgrading/constructing to the highest quality, utilization of the latest technology and of such size and number to provide for comfortable learning for people of all ages, provide for all educational programs in the community and be effectively utilized through shared community activities.

Suggested Revision from ACP – Visioning and Planning, Ltd.

In the future, educational facilities in Columbia will be of the highest quality construction, include the latest technology, and be of such size and number to provide for comfortable learning for people of all ages, provide for all educational programs in the community, be effectively utilized through shared community activities, and completely meet the needs of the community.

Themes and Draft Goals

Sub-Topic: Resource Allocation

Original List of Themes from Kick-off

1. Collaboration between community and schools
2. Equal resources for public schools (equitable)
3. Education opportunities for ELL/ESL and low socioeconomic status students
4. Adult education opportunities: funding / scholarships for college / higher education
5. Teacher salaries / (down arrow—less or lower) administration
6. Recruitment / Training and retention of teachers
7. Early childhood education

Revised List of Themes from Citizen Topic Group Meeting #2

1. Collaboration between community and schools
2. Equal resources for public schools (equitable)
3. Education opportunities for ELL/ESL and low socioeconomic status students - Better utilize available resources – career center
4. Increase awareness of adult education opportunities: funding / need-based scholarships for college / higher education
5. Teacher salaries / restructure administration – effective and efficient administration
6. Recruitment / Training and retention of teachers
7. Early childhood education

Draft Goal Statement

In a collaborative effort between the community and its educational entities, resources will be allocated to ensure:

- that teachers are well tracked and well compensated,
- that administration is effective and efficient
- that students have equal access to resources
- that there are increased opportunities for early childhood programs, ELL students with low SES
- that there is increased awareness of and utilization of adult education and higher education programs and scholarship opportunities.

Suggested Revision from ACP – Visioning and Planning, Ltd.

In a collaborative effort between the community and its educational entities, resources will be allocated to ensure that teachers are well tracked and well compensated, that administration is effective and efficient, that students have equal access to resources, that there are increased opportunities for early childhood programs, as well as ELL students with low SES, and that there is increased awareness of and utilization of adult education, higher education programs, and scholarship opportunities.

Note: Please provide definition of acronyms (ELL, SES, etc.)

Themes and Draft Goals

Sub-Topic: Quality Education

List of Themes from Citizen Topic Group Meeting #2

1. Quality education is important
2. Sustain quality education
3. Maintain education as a priority
4. Close achievement gap
5. Equal education for all
6. Improve learning programs
7. Measure meaningful outcomes
8. Facilitate post-secondary, career and adult education
9. Lifelong learning is important
10. Start early

Draft Goal Statement

Columbia will provide a continuum of high quality educational opportunities (validated by meaningful measures of outcomes) that enables students of all ages and abilities to achieve learning and training goals.

Suggested Revision from ACP – Visioning and Planning, Ltd.

No revision suggested. This is excellent.